A6

24. The method of claim 11 wherein the antibody is a single-chain antibody.

25. The method of claim 11 wherein the antibody is a humanized antibody.

REMARKS

Entry of the above amendments is requested. With entry of these amendments, claims 1-6, 9, 11-13, 15, and 17-25 are now in the case. Claims 1, 9, 11, 15, and 17 have been amended. Claims 7, 8, 10, 14, and 16 have been canceled. No new matter has been added.

The above claim amendments and cancellations have been made solely to expedite prosecution of claims drawn to subject matter of commercial interest. These amendments have not been made for reasons related to patentability. No claim has been rejected. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute claims to cancelled subject matter in one or more continuing applications.

Support for the claim amendments and newly added claims is found throughout the application as filed, such as at pages 5-6, 7, and 13-15.

The amended claims are drawn to a single species, anti-zvegf3 antibodies; all claims now read on this species. In view of these amendments, the species election requirement is believed to be moot.

A copy of amended claims 1, 9, 11, 15, and 17, marked to show changes, is included as an Appendix.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (206) 442-6673.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary E. Parker
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Enclosures:
Appendix
Amendment Fee Transmittal (in duplicate)
Postcard

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Appendix

1. (amended) A method of reducing cell proliferation or extracellular matrix production in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a composition comprising a zvegf3 antagonist in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable delivery vehicle, [wherein the zvegf3 antagonist is selected from the group consisting of anti-zvegf3 antibodies, mitogenically inactive receptor-binding zvegf3 variant polypeptides, and inhibitory polynucleotides,] in an amount sufficient to reduce cell proliferation or extracellular matrix production, wherein said zvegf3 antagonist is an antibody that specifically binds to a dimeric protein having two polypeptide chains, wherein each of said polypeptide chains consists of a sequence of amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

residues 230-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 231-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 232-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 233-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 234-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 235-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 236-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 237-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 238-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 239-345 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
residues 240-345 of SEQ ID NO:2.

9. (amended) The method of claim [8] 1 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

11. (amended) A method of treating fibrosis in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a zvegf3 antagonist in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable delivery vehicle, wherein the zvegf3 antagonist is [selected from the group consisting of anti-zvegf3 antibodies, mitogenically inactive receptor-binding zvegf3 variant polypeptides, and inhibitory polynucleotides] an antibody that specifically binds to a dimeric protein having two polypeptide chains, wherein each of said polypeptide chains consists of a sequence of amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

residues 230-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;

residues 231-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 232-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 233-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 234-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 235-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 236-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 237-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 238-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 239-345 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
residues 240-345 of SEQ ID NO:2.

15. (amended) The method of claim [14] 11 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

17. (amended) A method of reducing stellate cell activation in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a composition comprising a zvegf3 antagonist in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable delivery vehicle, [wherein the zvegf3 antagonist is selected from the group consisting of anti-zvegf3 antibodies, mitogenically inactive receptor-binding zvegf3 variant polypeptides, and inhibitory polynucleotides,] in an amount sufficient to reduce stellate cell activation, wherein the zvegf3 antagonist is an antibody that specifically binds to a dimeric protein having two polypeptide chains, wherein each of said polypeptide chains consists of a sequence of amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

residues 230-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 231-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 232-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 233-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 234-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 235-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 236-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 237-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 238-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;
residues 239-345 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
residues 240-345 of SEQ ID NO:2.